Legislation to regulate the conduct and organisation of workmen.

213. Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether there is any legislation in Cochin to regulate the conduct and organisation of workmen;

(b) have the Government realised the need for any such legislation in Cochin;

(c) has the attention of the Government been drawn to the need of such legislation; if so, by whom; will a copy of the report on the matter, if any, be placed on the table;

(d) have the Government taken any action on the report?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government ordered an enquiry in the matter. As a result the Protector of the Depressed Classes reported that legislation on the lines of the British Indian Trade Union Act is desirable. A copy of his report is appended. (*Appendix IV*).

(d) The question is under consideration.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—By what time they hope to effect this legislation?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is being considered. Probably it will be introduced into the next meeting.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is there any harm in introducing this measure under the powers vested in the Government without consulting the Council?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not think it will be possible and I do not think there is any necessity.

Half-fee concession to Muslim students.

214. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Would the Government state:—

(a) a copy of their latest order on the production of certificates for half-fee concession of Muslim students;

(b) a copy of their last but one order on the production of certificate for half-fee concession of Muslim students;

(c) the difference between the two orders in (a) and (b) and the reason for the difference;

(d) (i) whether in the reply of the Diwan to the representations of the Muslim Deputation it was not stated that the certificates for half-fee concession of Muslim students could be issued by the representatives of the community and (ii) whether any departure was subsequently made from this stipulation and (iii) if made, the nature of the amendment and the reason for the same;

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33 Upper Secondary Department of St. Sebastian's High School, Pallivirutti
34 Upper Secondary Department of St. Mary's Syrian Convent Girls' High School, Ernakulam
35 Upper Secondary Department of Pompei St. Mary's High School Kattur
36 Upper Secondary Department of St. Aloysius' High School, Elthuruth
37 Upper Secondary Department of Sacred Heart's Convent High School, Chalakkudi
38 Upper Secondary Department of St. Joseph's Girls' High School, Trichur
39 Lower Secondary Department of V Lower Secondary School, Panangad
40 Lower Secondary Department of St. Mary's L S School, Narakkal
41 Lower Secondary Department of Chaldean Syrian Church School, Trichur
42 Lower Secondary Department of Lower Secondary School, Palayannur
43 Lower Secondary Department of M J D School, Kunnamkulam

APPENDIX IV.

Report dated 8th May 1934 C. N. 615/1109, from the Protector of the Depressed Classes.

In reply to the above reference, I have the honour to report as follows :—

In 1926, the Government of India passed the Indian Trades Union Act to regulate the relations between workmen and employers to enable the Government to step in, and mediate between the employer and the employee, and generally to keep the problem of labour under control. In Cochin, it was only in recent years that mills and factories necessitating the large employment of labour came to existence, and with it the problem of labour. The Indian TradeUnions Act is in operation in the adjoining Districts of Malabar and Coimbatore, and its repercussion in Cochin is rapidly making the conditions in our State such that an enactment on the lines of those in British India seems necessary to keep the problem in hand. Here it may be remarked that the development of the Harbour and the Railway construction, foreshadow a large development in the Industrial and Commercial activities in the State, and which must necessarily bring the problem of labour into acute prominence. To safe-guard the interests, therefore, of the growing labour population, and to regulate the relations between capital and labour, adequate provision of law seems to be called for. The workmen's Compensation Bill recently introduced into the Cochin Legislative Council is a timely step. For the organisation of labour and to help the workmen how to help themselves, the Registration of Trade Union in Cochin may also be encouraged by giving them a legal status. The Government Advocate may be asked to take steps to introduce a Bill in the Council on the lines of the British enactment. A copy of the Indian Trade Unions Act 1926 is herewith submitted.

(True copy)

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